MAR 0 3 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TO TO

re Patent Application of

Olle CARLBARK et al.

Application No.: 09/529,638

Filed: June 5, 2000

For: WAIST BELT FOR ABSORBENT

**GARMENTS** 

Group Art Unit: 3761

Examiner: C. Lynne Anderson

Confirmation No.: 9552

## <u>REPLY</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Office Action mailed December 10, 2003, Applicants submit the following remarks

As correctly stated in the Office Action, Claims 4-30 are pending in the present application. Claims 4-20 and 26-30 stand allowed. Claims 21-25 stand rejected.

## Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that Claims 4-20 and 26-30 are allowed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 21-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Herrin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,706,524). This rejection is respectfully traversed.